

REF

- It instructs the scholar in the various methods of discovering and *refilling* the subtil tricks of sophisters. *Watts.*
- To REFER. *v. a.* [*refero*, Lat. *refero*, Fr.]
1. To dismiss for information or judgment.
Those causes the divine historian *refers* us to, and not to any productions out of nothing. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*
 2. To betake for decision.
The heir of his kingdom hath *referred* herself unto a poor, but worthy gentleman. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
 3. To reduce to, as to the ultimate end.
You profess and practise to *refer* all things to yourself. *Bac.*
 4. To reduce, as to a class.
The salts, predominant in quick lime, we *refer* rather to lixiviate, than acid. *Boyle on Colours.*
- To REFER. *v. n.* To respect; to have relation.
Of those places, that *refer* to the shutting and opening the abyss, I take notice of that in Job. *Burnet.*
- REFEREE. *n. f.* [from *refer*.] One to whom any thing is referred.
Referees and arbitrators seldom forget themselves. *L'Estr.*
- REFERENCE. *n. f.* [from *refer*.]
1. Relation; respect; view towards; allusion to.
The knowledge of that which man is in *reference* unto himself and other things in relation unto man, I may term the mother of all those principles, which are decrees in that law of nature, whereby human actions are framed. *Hosker.*
Jupiter was the son of *Æther* and *Dies*; so called, because the one had *reference* to his celestial conditions, the other discovered his natural virtues. *Raleigh's History of the World.*
Christian religion commands sobriety, temperance and moderation, in *reference* to our appetites and passions. *Tillotson.*
 2. Dismission to another tribunal.
It passed in England without the least *reference* hither. *Sw.*
- REFERENDARY. *n. f.* [*referendus*, Lat.] One to whose decision any thing is referred.
In suits, it is good to *refer* to some friend of trust; but let him chuse well his *referendaries*. *Bacon's Essays.*
- To REFERMENT. *v. a.* [*re* and *ferment*.] To ferment anew.
Th' admitted nitre agitates the flood, *Blackmore.*
Revives its fire, and *referments* the blood.
- REFERABLE. *adj.* [from *refer*.] Capable of being considered, as in relation to something else.
Unto God all parts of time are alike, unto whom none are *referrible*, and all things present, unto whom nothing is past or to come, but who is the same yesterday, to-day and to-morrow. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- To REFINE. *v. a.* [*refino*, Fr.]
1. To purify; to clear from dross and recrement.
I will *refine* them as silver is *refined*, and will try them as gold is tried. *Zech. xiii. 9.*
Weigh ev'ry word, and ev'ry thought *refine*. *Anon.*
The red Dutch currant yields a rich juice, to be diluted with a quantity of water boiled with *refined* sugar. *Mortimer.*
 2. To make elegant; to polish; to make accurate.
Queen Elizabeth's time was a golden age for a world of *refined* wits, who honoured poetry with their pens. *Peacham.*
Love *refines* the thoughts, and hath his seat *In reason.* *Milton.*
The same traditional sloth, which renders the bodies of children, born from wealthy parents, weak, may perhaps *refine* their spirits. *Swift.*
- To REFINE. *v. n.*
1. To improve in point of accuracy or delicacy.
Chaucer *refined* on Boccace, and mended stories. *Dryden.*
Let a lord but own the happy lines;
How the wit brightens, how the sense *refines*! *Pope.*
 2. To grow pure.
The pure limpid stream, when foul with stains,
Works itself clear, and as it runs *refines*. *Addison.*
 3. To affect nicety.
He makes another paragraph about our *refining* in controversy, and coming nearer still to the church of Rome. *Atterbury.*
- REFINEDLY. *adv.* [from *refine*.] With affected elegance.
Will any dog
Refinedly leave his bitches and his bones, *Dryden.*
To turn a wheel?
- REFINEMENT. *n. f.* [from *refine*.]
1. The act of purifying, by clearing any thing from dross and recrementitious matter.
The more bodies are of kin to spirit in subtilty and *refinement*, the more diffusive are they. *Norris.*
 2. Improvement in elegance or purity.
From the civil war to this time, I doubt whether the corruptions in our language have not equalled its *refinements*. *Sw.*
 3. Artificial practice.
The rules religion prescribes are more successful in publick and private affairs, than the *refinements* of irregular cunning. *Rog.*
 4. Affection of elegant improvement.
The flirts about town had a design to leave us in the lurch, by some of their late *refinements*. *Addison's Guardian.*
- REFINER. *n. f.* [from *refine*.]
1. Purifier; one who clears from dross or recrement.
The *refiners* of iron observe, that that iron stone is hardest

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- to melt, which is fullest of metal; and that easiest, which hath most dross. *Bacon's Physical Remains.*
2. Improver in elegance.
As they have been the great *refiners* of our language, so it hath been my chief ambition to imitate them. *Swift.*
 3. Inventor of superfluous subtilties.
No men see less of the truth of things, than these great *refiners* upon incidents, who are so wonderfully subtle, and over wise in their conceptions. *Addison's Spectator*, N^o 170.
Some *refiners* pretend to argue for the usefulness of parties in such a government as ours. *Swift.*
- To REFIT. *v. a.* [*refait*, Fr. *re* and *fit*.] To repair; to restore after damage.
He will not allow that there are any such signs of art in the make of the present globe, or that there was so great care taken in the *refitting* of it up again at the deluge. *Woodw.*
Permit our ships a shelter on your shores,
Refitted from your woods with planks and oars. *Dryden.*
- To REFLECT. *v. a.* [*reflektir*, Fr. *refleto*, Lat.] To throw back.
We, his gather'd beams
Reflected, may with matter fere foment. *Milton.*
Bodies close together *reflect* their own colour. *Dryden.*
- To REFLECT. *v. n.*
1. To throw back light.
In dead men's skulls, and in those holes,
Where eyes did once inhabit, there were crept,
As 'twere in frown of eyes, *reflecting* gems. *Shakefp.*
 2. To bend back.
Inanimate matter moves always in a straight line, and never *reflects* in an angle, nor bends in a circle, which is a continual reflection, unless either by some external impulse, or by an intrinsic principle of gravity. *Bentley's Sermons.*
 3. To throw back the thoughts upon the past or on themselves.
The imagination casts thoughts in our way, and forces the understanding to *reflect* upon them. *Dunpa.*
In every action *reflect* upon the end; and in your undertaking it, consider why you do it. *Taylor.*
Who faith, who could such ill events expect?
With shame on his own counsels doth *reflect*. *Denham.*
When men are grown up, and *reflect* on their own minds, they cannot find any thing more ancient there, than those opinions which were taught them before their memory began to keep a register of their actions. *Locke.*
It is hard, that any part of my land should be settled upon one who has used me to ill; and yet I could not see a sprig of any bough of this whole walk of trees, but I should *reflect* upon her and her severity. *Addison's Spectator.*
Let the king dismiss his woes,
Reflecting on her fair renown;
And take the cyphers from his brows,
To put his wonted laurels on. *Prior.*
 4. To consider attentively.
Into myself my reason's eye I turn'd;
And as I much *reflected*, much I mourn'd. *Prior.*
 5. To throw reproach or censure.
Neither do I *reflect* in the least upon the memory of his late majesty, whom I entirely acquit of any imputation. *Sw.*
 6. To bring reproach.
Errors of wives *reflect* on husbands still. *Dryden.*
- REFLECTANT. *adj.* [*reflectans*, Lat.] Bending back; flying back.
The ray descendent, and the ray *reflectant*, flying with so great a speed, that the air between them cannot take a formal play any way, before the beams of the light be on both sides of it; it follows, that, according to the nature of humid things, it must first only swell. *Digby on the Soul.*
- REFLECTION. *n. f.* [from *reflect*: thence I think *reflexion* less proper: *reflexion*, Fr. *reflexus*, Lat.]
1. The act of throwing back.
The eye sees not itself,
But by *reflection* from other things. *Shakefp. Julius Cæsar.*
If the sun's light consisted but of one sort of rays, there would be but one colour, and it would be impossible to produce any new by *reflections* or refractions. *Cheyne.*
 2. The act of bending back.
Inanimate matter moves always in a straight line, nor ever *reflects* in an angle or circle, which is a continual *reflection*, unless by some external impulse. *Bentley's Sermons.*
 3. That which is reflected.
She shines not upon fools, lest the *reflection* should hurt her. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
As the sun in water we can bear,
Yet not the sun, but his *reflection* there;
So let us view her here, in what she was,
And take her image in this wat'ry glass. *Dryden.*
 4. Thought thrown back upon the past.
The three first parts I dedicate to my old friends, to take off those melancholy *reflections*, which the sense of age, infirmity and death may give them. *Denham.*
This dreadful image so possess'd her mind,
She ceas'd all farther hope; and now began
To make *reflection* on th' unhappy man. *Dryden.*
Job's

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- Job's *reflections* on his once flourishing estate, did at the same time afflict and encourage him. *Atterbury.*
What wounding reproaches of soul must he feel, from the *reflections* on his own ingratitude. *Rogers's Sermons.*
5. The action of the mind upon itself.
Reflection is the perception of the operations of our own minds within us, as it is employed about the ideas it has got. *Locke.*
 6. Attentive consideration.
This delight grows and improves under thought and *reflection*; and while it exercises, does also endear itself to the mind; at the same time employing and inflaming the meditations. *South's Sermons.*
 7. Censure.
He dy'd; and oh! may no *reflection* shed
Its poisonous venom on the royal dead. *Prior.*
- REFLECTIVE. *adj.* [from *reflect*.]
1. Throwing back images.
When the weary king gave place to night,
His beams he to his royal brother lent,
And so shone still in his *reflective* light. *Dryden.*
In the *reflective* stream the fighting bride
Viewing her charms impair'd, abash'd shall hide
Her pensive head. *Prior.*
 2. Considering things past; considering the operations of the mind.
Fore'd by *reflective* reason I confess,
That human science is uncertain guess. *Prior.*
- REFLECTOR. *n. f.* [from *reflect*.] Considerer.
There is scarce any thing that nature has made, or that men do suffer, whence the devout *reflector* cannot take an occasion of an aspiring meditation. *Boyle on Colours.*
- REFLEX. *adj.* [*reflexus*, Lat.] Directed backward.
The motions of my mind are as obvious to the *reflex* act of the soul, or the turning of the intellectual eye inward upon its own actions, as the passions of my sense are obvious to my sense; I see the object, and I perceive that I see it. *Hale.*
The order and beauty of the inanimate parts of the world, the discernible ends of them do evince by a *reflex* argument, that it is the workmanship, not of blind mechanism of blinder chance, but of an intelligent and benign agent. *Bentley.*
- REFLEX. *n. f.* [*reflexus*, Lat.] Reflection.
There was no other way for angels to sin, but by *reflex* of their understandings upon themselves. *Hooker.*
I'll say you gray is not the morning's eye,
'Tis but the pale *reflex* of Cynthia's brow. *Shakefp.*
- REFLEXIBILITY. *n. f.* [from *reflexible*.] The quality of being reflexible.
Reflexibility of rays is their disposition to be reflected or turned back into the same medium from any other medium, upon whose surface they fall; and rays are more or less reflexible, which are turned back more or less easily. *Newton.*
- REFLEXIBLE. *adj.* [from *reflexus*, Lat.] Capable to be thrown back.
Sir Isaac Newton has demonstrated, by convincing experiments, that the light of the sun consists of rays differently refrangible and *reflexible*; and that those rays are differently *reflexible*, that are differently refrangible. *Cheyne.*
- REFLEXIVE. *adj.* [*reflexus*, Lat.] Having respect to something past.
That assurance *reflexive* cannot be a divine faith, but at the most an human, yet such as perhaps I may have no doubting mixed with. *Hammond's Practical Catechism.*
- REFLEXIVELY. *adv.* [from *reflexive*.] In a backward direction.
Solomon tells us life and death are in the power of the tongue, and that not only directly in regard of the good or ill we may do to others, but *reflexively* also, in respect of what may rebound to ourselves. *Government of the Tongue.*
- REFLOAT. *n. f.* [*re* and *float*.] Ebb; reflux.
The main float and *refloat* of the sea, is by consent of the universe, as part of the diurnal motion. *Bacon.*
- To REFLOURISH. *v. a.* [*re* and *flourish*.] To flourish anew.
Virtue given for lost
Revives, *reflourishes*, then vigorous most,
When most unactive deem'd. *Milton's Agonistes.*
- To REFLOW. *v. n.* [*refluer*, Fr. *re* and *flow*.] To flow back.
- REFLUENT. *adj.* [*refluens*, Lat.] Running back; flowing back.
The liver receives the *refluent* blood almost from all the parts of the abdomen. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*
Tell, by what paths,
Back to the fountain's head the sea conveys
The *refluent* rivers, and the land repays. *Blackmore.*
- REFLUX. *n. f.* [*reflux*, Fr. *refluxus*, Lat.] Backward course of water.
Besides
Mine own that 'bide upon me, all from me
Shall with a fierce *reflux* on me redound. *Milton.*
The variety of the flux and *reflux* of Euripus, or whether the same do ebb and flow seven times a day, is incontra-verdible. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- REFOCILLATION. *n. f.* [*refocilla*, Lat.] Restoration of strength by refreshment.

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- To REFORM. *v. a.* [*reformo*, Lat. *reformer*, Fr.] To change from worse to better.
A sect in England, following the very same rule of policy, seeketh to *reform* even the French reformation, and purge out from thence also dregs of popery. *Shaker, l. iv. f. 8.*
Seat worther of Gods, was built
With second thoughts, *reforming* what was old. *Milton.*
May no such storm
Fall on our times, where ruin must *reform*. *Denham.*
Now low'ring looks preface approaching storms,
And now prevailing love her face *reforms*. *Dryden.*
One cannot attempt the perfect *reforming* the languages of the world, without rendering himself ridiculous. *Locke.*
The example alone of a vicious prince will corrupt an age; but that of a good one will not *reform* it. *Swift.*
- To REFORM. *v. n.* To make a change from worse to better.
Was his doctrine of the mass struck out in this conflict? or did it give him occasion of *reforming* in this point? *Atterbury.*
- REFORM. *n. f.* [French.] Reformation.
- REFORMATION. *n. f.* [*reformation*, Fr. from *reform*.]
1. Change from worse to better.
Never came *reformation* in a flood
With such a heady current, scow'ring faults;
Nor ever Hydra-headed willfulness
So soon did lose his seat, as in this King. *Shakefp. Henry V.*
Satire lashes vice into *reformation*. *Dryden.*
The pagan converts mention this great *reformation* of those who had been the greatest sinners, with that sudden and surprising change, which the christian religion made in the lives of the most profligate. *Addison.*
 2. The change of religion from the corruptions of popery to its primitive state.
The burden of the *reformation* lay on Luther's shoulders. *Atterbury.*
- REFORMER. *n. f.* [from *reform*.]
1. One who makes a change for the better; an amender.
Publick *reformers* had need first practise that on their own hearts, which they purpose to try on others. *King Charles.*
The complaint is more general, than the endeavours to redress it: Abroad every man would be a *reformer*, how very few at home. *Sprat's Sermons.*
It was honour enough, to behold the English churches reformed; that is, delivered from the *reformers*. *South.*
 2. Those who changed religion from popish corruptions and innovations.
Our first *reformers* were famous confessors and martyrs all over the world. *Bacon.*
- To REFRACT. *v. a.* [*refractus*, Lat.] To break the natural course of rays.
If its angle of incidence be large, and the refractive power of the medium not very strong to throw it far from the perpendicular, it will be *refracted*. *Cheyne's Phil. Princ.*
Rays of light are urged by the *refracting* media. *Cheyne.*
Refracted from yon eastern cloud,
The grand ethereal bow shoots up. *Thompson.*
- REFRACTION. *n. f.* [*refraction*, Fr.]
Refraction, in general, is the incurvation or change of determination in the body moved, which happens to it whilst it enters or penetrates any medium: in dioptricks, it is the variation of a ray of light from that right line, which it would have passed on in, had not the density of the medium turned it aside. *Harris.*
Refraction, out of the rarer medium into the denser, is made towards the perpendicular. *Newton's Opticks.*
- REFRACTIVE. *adj.* [from *refract*.] Having the power of refraction.
Those superficies of transparent bodies reflect the greatest quantity of light, which have the greatest refracting power; that is, which intercede mediums that differ most in their *refractive* densities. *Newton's Opticks.*
- REFRACTORINESS. *n. f.* [from *refractory*.] Sullen obstinacy.
I did never allow any man's *refractoriness* against the privileges and orders of the houses. *King Charles.*
Great complaint was made by the presbyterian gang, of my *refractoriness* to obey the parliament's order. *Saunderson.*
- REFRACTORY. *adj.* [*refractorius*, Fr. *refractorius*, Lat. and so should be written *refractory*. It is now accented on the first syllable, but by *Shakespeare* on the second.] Obstinate; perverse; contumacious.
There is a law in each well-order'd nation,
To curb those raging appetites that are
Most disobedient and *refractory*. *Shakefp.*
A rough hewn seaman, being brought before a wife justice for some misdemeanor, was by him ordered to be sent away to prison, and was *refractory* after he heard his doom, inasmuch as he would not stir a foot from the place where he stood, saying, it was better to stand where he was, than go to a worse place. *Bacon's Apophthegms.*
Vulgar compliance with any illegal and extravagant ways, like violent motions in nature, soon grows weary of itself, and ends in a *refractory* sullenness. *King Charles.*
Refractory